

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
U.S.S. Lead Response - SitRep #12



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region 5

Subject: SitRep #12
U.S.S. Lead Response
East Chicago, IN

To: U.S.S. Lead Response Distribution List

Through: Jim Mitchell, Incident Commander
From: Jaime Julian, Situation Unit Leader

Date: 8/25/16
Reporting Period: 8/24/16, 1700 hours – 8/25/16, 1700 hours



Community Involvement Coordinators schedule residents for indoor dust sampling.

Section 1: Introduction & Site Background

The U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc. (U.S.S. Lead) site is located in East Chicago, Lake County, Indiana. A copper smelter, lead refinery and secondary lead smelter operated on site from the 1920s to 1985. Smelting operations volatilized metals including lead and arsenic. Some lead-containing dust was wind deposited on the area soils during these operations. Blast furnace slag was stockpiled south of the plant building and spread once a year over an adjoining wetland south of the Site. The primary contaminants of concern are lead and arsenic which are present in exposed soils and subsequently could be tracked into the area residences.

EPA listed the U.S.S. Lead site to the National Priorities List (NPL) in 2009. The site includes part of the former U.S.S. Lead facility along with nearby commercial, municipal and residential areas. The overall site has been divided into three zones. The Removal Program is currently addressing soil and residential contamination in Zone 1 and specifically at the West Calumet Housing Complex (WCHC). Mulch has been placed over all exposed soils at the WCHC. Indoor sampling has been conducted in a subset of WCHC homes and analytical results are being validated. Teams have been mobilized to communicate directly with residents, develop temporary

relocation procedures, develop cleaning procedures, and initiate outdoor sampling. The Remedial Program is currently collecting samples in Zones 2 and 3, and the analytical results will be evaluated for other potential areas needing remediation.

EPA is working in a Unified Command Group with the City of East Chicago, the East Chicago Housing Authority (ECHA), the State of Indiana, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

1.1 Incident Command Post

The U.S. EPA Incident Command Post (ICP) is located at E. 149th Place and McCook Avenue, East Chicago, IN.

1.2 Objectives

- Ensure health and safety of the public and response personnel.
- Provide and manage necessary communications, both internally and externally.
- Provide home cleanings and temporary relocation for residents in Zone 1.
- Perform soil sampling in Zones 2 and 3.

1.3 Staffing

As of 1500 hours, 83 people were checked in either on site or in the EOC. For more detailed staffing information, see Section 3: Metrics Table or Appendix B: Organizational Chart.

Section 2: Activities During Reporting Period

2.1 Incident Command

- Attended Daily OPs call with EPA senior management and HQ at 0945.
- Held Multi-Agency Coordination Team Call with ATSDR, ISDH, HUD, ECHA, East Chicago Health Department, City of East Chicago, CDC Region 5 Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit, EPA Region 5 Office of Children's Health, and East Chicago Schools, and United States Department of Agriculture. Important takeaway messages will be focused on in future meetings, including:
 - Ensuring all Multi-Agency Coordination Team members are aware of the individual agency efforts, tracking progress of activities through reporting metrics, and determining resource availability.
 - Maintaining case management as children with high blood lead levels are relocated. ECHA has responsibility for case management of these children; however, coordination between ECHA, HUD, and partner health agencies when the children move is imperative so that tracking can continue.
 - Educating the community about appropriate nutritional practices and providing access to healthful foods, including salad bars and

- fruit/vegetable snacks for the schools, to help reduce potential lead uptake in children.
 - Continue separate calls for health agencies due to the depth and breadth of potential health issues with weekly report-outs to the Multi-Agency Coordination Team.
- Met with HUD to coordinate both the HUD relocation process and EPA temporary relocation and cleaning. Planning a more detailed coordination meeting next week between HUD, EPA, ECHA, and HUD's relocation contractors. Will provide HUD ATSDR's prioritization list.

2.2 Indoor Sampling Team

- Sampled 1 residence for a total of 69 residences to date. None scheduled tomorrow.
- Finalized indoor dust sampling letters. Will begin sending letters tomorrow.
- Sampled at Carrie Gosch School prior to moving ICP.
- Performed cleaning confirmation sampling at 1 residence today; 3 pending.

2.3 Community Involvement Team

- Answered EPA hotline (219-801-2199), emails, and walk-in questions.
- Scheduled 5 appointments for the relocation team.
- Went door-to-door to make contact with residents who have children under 6 and who have not yet been contacted. One resident was contacted.
- Drafted flyer for the Availability Session.
- Checked out space and ordered resources for the Availability Session.
- Assembled "Welcome Home" packets for people moving back to their homes.

2.4 Relocation Team

- Completed 5 interviews with residents, 2 more scheduled today.
- 2 interviews scheduled for tomorrow.
- 0 family returned home today; 7 return home tomorrow.
- 3 families relocated today.
- Scheduled temporary relocation move-out dates:
 - 6 families returning home 8/27.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 8/29; 3 returning home.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 8/30.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 8/31.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 9/1.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 9/6.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 9/7.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 9/8.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 9/9.
 - 1 family temporarily relocating on 9/13.

2.5 Legal/Liaison

- Provided Data Sharing Agreement to external partners for signature.
- Reaching out to the North Township Trustee regarding their participation in the Availability Session. They have offered mental health and other services to residents.

Meeting	Location	Date
Mayor of East Chicago	East Chicago City Hall	8/26/16
Multi-Agency Availability Session	Carrie Gosch School	8/30/16

2.6 Public Information

- Reviewed the draft Availability Session flyer.
- Met with the Indiana State Health Commissioner, Governor's Office and other State representatives.
- Conducted an interviews with various media outlets.
- Provided the pastor from the First Baptist Church information about the Superfund program and the U.S.S. Lead site, per his request.
- Drafting a desk statement for Zone 3 soil sampling results letters.

2.7 Safety

- Contacted SulTrac in order to follow-up on the injury from yesterday. Informed them they must follow injury reporting protocol under Unified Command structure and will ensure they sign off on unified Health and Safety Plan.
- Reviewed SulTrac's Health and Safety Plan for the site with their scope of work. Meeting with them later today to discuss further.
- Created information flyer regarding the Poison Ivy plants that have been spotted in many areas around the work site and posted it in all of the trailers. Spoke with ERRS to make sure that the poison ivy plants are taken care of and treated since they are directly next to the outdoor tent area and the port-a-johns.
- Briefed staff on reporting of safety concerns, proper protocol for communication, and how all teams should be working cohesively under the unified Health and Safety Plan.

2.8 Finance

- Additional remedial funding was approved and will be added to both ERRS and START shortly.
- Working to ensure accounting codes work across EPA systems.

2.9 Remedial (Zone 2 & 3)

- Running 4 full operating teams; 3 sampling teams are collecting samples in South of Zone 2 and 1 team is processing the samples and working to complete database requests.
- Sampled soil at 6 locations in Zone 2, bringing to total to 66.
- Resampled soil at 4 locations in Zone 3.
- Signed 2 Zone 2 access agreements, bringing total to 322.

2.10 Data Management

- Continue tracking progress of ERS photo and video documentation storage server for linkage to USEPA services. Relocation forms will be stored on ERRS server with all other photo/video documentation.
- XRF iForm has been created. Scribe database will now be uploaded with XRF lead paint data. XRF Form will now be a sub-form to the Indoor Dust Sampling form.
- Made final tweaks to remedial sample iForm. Training them in the field to upload to their field Scribe database. Data will be merged with our master database.
- Downloaded MS Access DB from SulTrac FTP site. A query request will be asked from Sultrac to provide Zone 1 and 3 lead and arsenic data from XRF and Lab data. The data will be loaded in Scribe for map linkage.
- Creating soil boring iForm for SulTrac. This will allow them to discontinue almost all paper logging of data.

Section 3: Metrics Table

Metrics—Sampling, Zone 1	Today	To Date
Residences with Indoor Dust Samples Collected	1	69
Residences Scheduled for Indoor Dust Sampling	7	54
Sampling Results Received from Lab	0	42
Residences Contacted about Sampling Results	0	34
Metrics—Sampling, Zone 2		
Total Properties		586
Access Agreements Signed	2	322
Soil Samples Collected	6	66
Metrics—Sampling, Zone 3		
Total Properties		463
Access Agreements Signed	0	406
No Access/Denied Access		57
Metrics—Relocation		
Residents Contacted	11	178
Relocation Interviews Conducted	5 complete 2 pending	55
Cleaning Access Agreements Signed	5 complete 2 pending	55
Households Relocated Currently (less than 1 week)	13	
Homes Cleaned		18
Households Returned to Home		10
Metrics—Personnel		
EPA on site	21	
Coordinating agency onsite	2	
Contractors/other onsite	57	
EPA in Emergency Operations Center (EOC)	3	
TOTAL	83	

Section 4: Definition of Terms

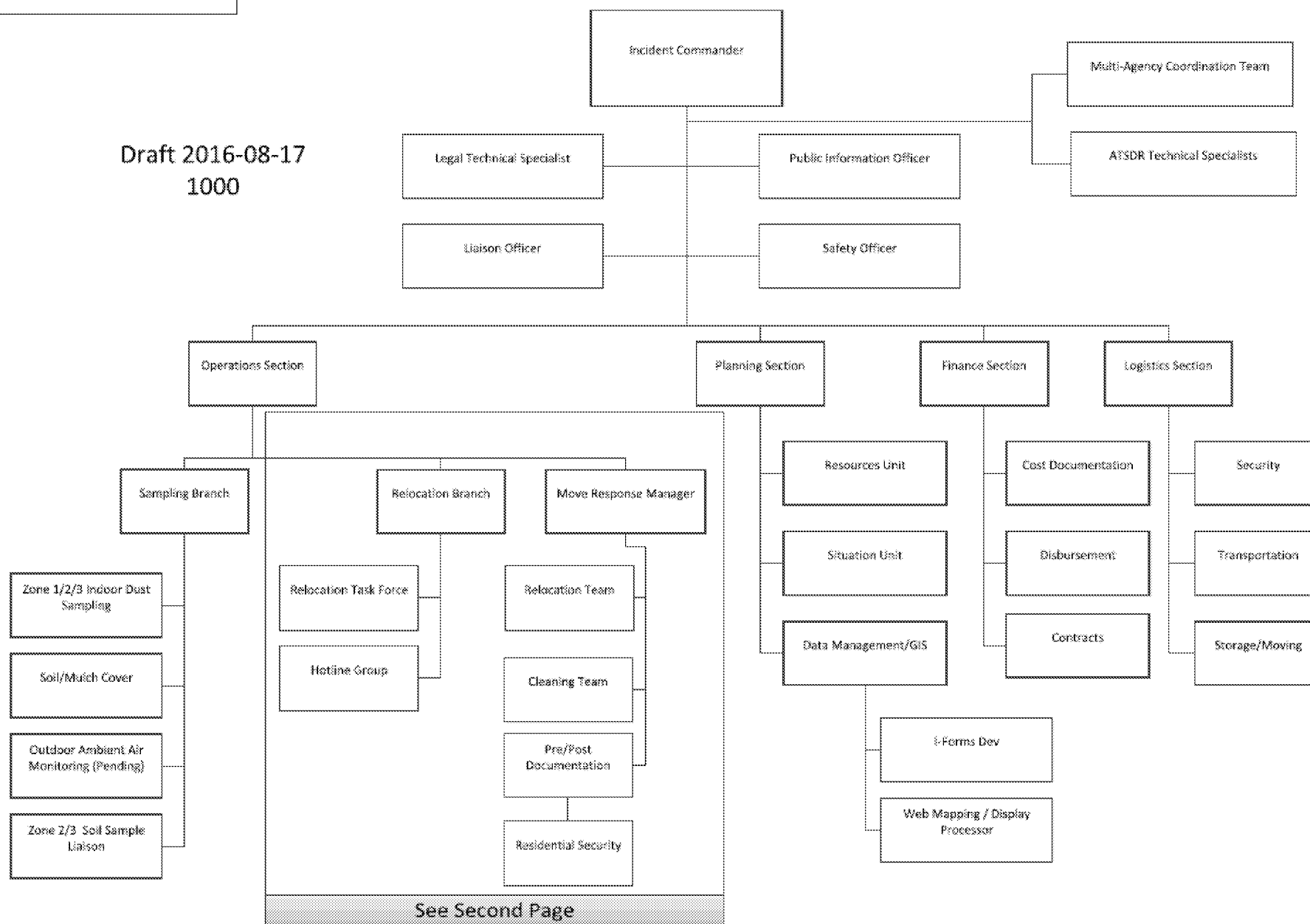
Acronym	Definition
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
DOJ	Department of Justice
ECHA	East Chicago Housing Authority
EDD	Electronic Data Deliverable
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ERRS	Emergency Rapid Response Services
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
ICP	Incident Command Post
ISDH	Indiana State Department of Health
ORC	Office of Regional Counsel
NPL	National Priority List
PII	Personally Identifiable Information
SitRep	Situation Report
START	Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
WCHC	West Calumet Housing Complex
U.S.S Lead	U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc.
XRF	X-ray Fluorescence

Appendix A Site Diagram



Appendix B Organizational Chart

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